

CLAIMS

1. A method of managing building options, comprising:

obtaining from a first user an indication of at least one available option for at least one of constructing a building and modifying an existing building;

5 causing the at least one available option to be electronically accessible to a second user;

obtaining electronically from said second user an indication of at least one choice from among the at least one available option; and

10 providing the indication of the at least one choice to said first user.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein said indication of the at least one available option is obtained electronically.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein said indication of the at least one choice is provided to said first user electronically.

15 4. The method of claim 1, wherein said first user inputs said indication of the at least one available option at a first computing unit and said second user inputs said indication of the at least one choice from among the at least one available option at a second computing unit coupled to the first computing unit via a communications network.

20 5. The method of claim 4, wherein the communications network is a global computer network.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one available option comprises at least one building component.

7. The method of claim 6, further comprising electronically providing information on the at least one building component to said second user.

5 8. The method of claim 7, wherein said at least one building component comprises a household appliance, and wherein said information comprises information relating to said household appliance.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein said information comprises pricing information.

10 10. The method of claim 8, wherein said information comprises an image of said household appliance.

11. The method of claim 8, wherein said information comprises performance information of said household appliance.

12. The method of claim 1, further comprising electronically providing information on the at least one available option to said second user.

15 13. The method of claim 12, wherein said information comprises product category information.

14. The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one available option is electronically accessible to said second user only if said second user first electronically transmits a valid password.

20 15. A system of managing building options, comprising:

a first processor adapted to obtain from a first user an indication of at least one available option;

25 a second processor being adapted to allow the at least one available building option to be electronically accessible to a second user, said second processor being adapted to obtain electronically from said second user an indication of at least one choice from among the at least one available

option, and said second processor being adapted to provide the at least one choice to said first user.

16. The system of claim 15, wherein said first user inputs said indication of the at least one available option at a first computing unit and said second user inputs said indication of the at least one choice from among the at least one available option at a second computing unit coupled to the first computing unit via a communications network.

17. The system of claim 16, wherein the communications network is a global computer network.

10 18. The system of claim 15, wherein the at least one available option comprises at least one building component.

19. The system of claim 18, wherein said processor is adapted to electronically provide information on the at least one building component to said second user.

15 20. The system of claim 18, wherein said at least one building component comprises a household appliance, and wherein said information comprises information relating to said household appliance.

21. The system of claim 20, wherein said information comprises pricing information.

20 22. The system of claim 20, wherein said information comprises an image of said household appliance.

23. The system of claim 20, wherein said information comprises performance information of said household appliance.

25 24. The system of claim 15, wherein the at least one available option is electronically accessible to said second user only if said second user first electronically transmits a valid password.

25. The system of claim 15, wherein said first processor and said second processor comprise the same processor.

26. The system of claim 15, wherein said first processor and said second processor comprise different processors.

5        27. At least one program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying at least one program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method of managing building options, said method comprising:

10                    obtaining from a first user an indication of at least one available option for at least one of constructing a building and modifying an existing building;

                          causing the at least one available option to be electronically accessible to a second user;

15                    obtaining electronically from said second user an indication of at least one choice from among the at least one available option; and

                          providing the indication of the at least one choice to said first user.

28. The device of claim 27, wherein said indication of the at least one available option is obtained electronically.

20        29. The device of claim 27, wherein said indication of the at least one choice is provided to said first user electronically.

25        30. The device of claim 27, wherein said first user inputs said indication of the at least one available option at a first computing unit and said second user inputs said indication of the at least one choice from among the at least one available option at a second computing unit coupled to the first computing unit via a communications network.

31. The device of claim 30, wherein the communications network is a global computer network.

32. The device of claim 27, wherein the at least one available option comprises at least one building component.

5 33. The device of claim 32, wherein said method further comprises electronically providing information on the at least one building component to said second user.

10 34. The device of claim 33, wherein said at least one building component comprises a household appliance, and wherein said information comprises information relating to said household appliance.

35. The device of claim 34, wherein said information comprises pricing information.

36. The device of claim 34, wherein said information comprises an image of said household appliance.

15 37. The device of claim 34, wherein said information comprises performance information of said household appliance.

38. The device of claim 27, wherein said method of managing building options further comprises electronically providing information on the at least one available option to said second user.

20 39. The device of claim 38, wherein said information comprises general product category information.

40. The device of claim 27, wherein the at least one available option is electronically accessible to said second user only if said second user first electronically transmits a valid password.

25 41. A system for managing building options comprising:

means for obtaining from a first user an indication of at least one available option for at least one of constructing a building and modifying an existing building;

5 means for causing the at least one available option to be electronically accessible to a second user;

means for obtaining electronically from said second user an indication of at least one choice from among the at least one available option; and

10 means for providing the indication of the at least one choice to said first user.